

An electrochemical cell and corresponding electrode assembly are described in which an alkali metal anode and a cathode assembly are wound together in a unidirectional winding having substantially straight sides such that the winding will fit into a prismatic cell. The anode and cathode are preferably arranged in the winding to provide for even utilization of reactive material during cell discharge by placing cathode and anode material in close proximity throughout the electrode assembly in the proportions in which they are utilized. An anode current collector having a length or height shorter than at least one of the length or height of the cathode current collector or alkali metal strips operatively associated with the anode current collector is also described.